

STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE

January 25, 2015

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that at the next regular session of the Erie County Legislature in 2015, to be held in County Hall in the City of Buffalo, the following is a true and accurate copy of a proclamation that will be adopted:

Whereas, Vernal Lee Harris, Jr. was born on January 12, 1947 and is the pastor of Prince of Peace Church located at 569 Kensington Avenue in Buffalo, New York, where he has pastored since 2006 and,

Whereas, Pastor Vernal L. Harris, Jr. was moved towards the ministry at the age of six and at the age of seven he discovered his love for music; while Pastor Harris began learning to play the piano, harmonica, guitar and the trombone, he soon realized that his greatest instrument anointed him by God was his voice; he gave his life to the Lord at age eight and at age nine, he preached his first sermon and at age 15 he was ordained an elder and became the youngest pastor in the Church of God in Unity Movement, and

Whereas, Pastor Vernal L. Harris, Jr.'s ministry has taken him all over the world, healing the sick, working with underprivileged youth and bringing hope to communities besieged by hopelessness; he is a national motivation speaker and attended Savannah State College in Savannah, Georgia where he majored in Business Administration; he subsequently entered Colgate Divinity School in Rochester, New York where he received a three year certificate from the Urban Black Church Studies Program and

Whereas, Pastor Vernal L. Harris, Jr. is a bold and powerful preacher; his mastery of God's word and his ability to deliver it with the force of a cyclone and the precision of a bulls eye bow and arrow, make him one of the most prolific pastors of our time; he is a compassionate and loving husband and a doting father who is committed to his biological and church family till his last day, and

Whereas, On Sunday, January 25, 2015, his biological, theological, colleagues and community leaders will gather at Salvatore's Italian Gardens, 6451 Transit Road, Buffalo, New York to celebrate Pastor Vernal L. Harris, Jr.'s 68th birthday and his 58th anniversary in the ministry,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

Resolved, that the Erie County Legislature does herein congratulate Rev. Vernal Harris, Jr. on his 58th anniversary in the ministry and be it further,

Resolved, that given the matchless and unparalleled manner in which he has lived his life, this Honorable Body does herein wish him a Happy 68th birthday and many, many more.

Betty Jean Grant

Minority Leader of the Erie County Legislature
2nd District Erie County Legislator